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23. A SYNOPSIS OF THE GENUS *PERILIMNASTES* RIDLEY
 (MELASTOMATACEAE)

(With a text-figure)

INTRODUCTION

I carried out a taxonomic study of several genera in the family Melastomataceae at the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, the Rijksherbarium, Leiden and Central National Herbarium, Calcutta from 1960-68. The present paper deals with the genus *Perilimnastes* Ridl. belonging to the tribe Oxysporeae Triana.

The genus *Perilimnastes* is characterised by its small branching suffruticose, rupicolous habit, its tubular or campanulate 4-angled or 8-ribbed calyx tube having long narrowly triangular calyx lobes and eight equal or subequal stamens which are inappendiculate both dorsally and ventrally. Ridley (in Journ. Roy. As. Soc. Straits Br. 79:70, 1918) established the genus on the basis of the type species *Anerin- cleistus fruticosus* Ridl. typified by the specimen Robinson 5453 which he transferred to the new genus as *P. fruticosa* (Ridl.) Ridl. Ridley (in Fl. Mal. Penin. 1:761, 1922) assigned this genus to the tribe Oxysporeae. The second species *Perilimnastes rupicola* Nayar from Mt. Dulit in Sarawak represents an extension of the generic range. The generic description is emended and is given below.

Perilimnastes Ridl. in Journ. Roy. As. Soc. Straits Br. 79:70, 1918; Ridley, Fl. Mal. Penin. 1:761, 1922.

Shrub or Herb. Branches glabrous or puberulous, nodes glabrous or setose, subterete, young branches compressed. Leaves opposite, narrowly elliptic-lanceolate base narrowed, apex acuminate, entire, 3-nerved, cross-venules absent on the upper surface and usually indistinct on the lower surface, coriaceous or membranous, petiolate. Inflorescence terminal, few flowered cymes. Calyx tube tubular or campanulate, 4-angular or 8-ribbed, limb 4-lobed, lobes long. Petals 4, spreading, lanceolate. Stamens 8, equal, lanceolate, apex acuminate or shortly rostrate, 1-porose, connective not produced, dorsally and ventrally inappendiculate. Ovary concrescent with the calyx tube by 8 septa, extraovarial chambers 8, all descending to the middle of the

ovary. Disc present. Style filiform, stigma inconspicuous. Capsule obconic, dehiscence by 4 large valves.

Type species: *Perilimnastes fruticosa* Ridl.

Distribution: Malaya and Borneo.

The name *Perilimnastes* is derived from Greek, 'Peri' = near, around; 'limne' = marsh or pond, in allusion to the plants growing near water courses.

This is an interesting genus comprising 2 species so far recorded from the mountains of Gunong Tahan in Malaya and Mt. Dulit in Sarawak. *Perilimnastes fruticosa* Ridl. is endemic to the mountains of Gunong Tahan (alt. 666 m) which lies on the eastern side of Malaya. Whereas *P. rupicola* Nayar is recorded from Mt. Dulit in Sarawak. According to Ridley (Fl. Mal. Penin. 1:761, 1922) *P. fruticosa* "forms cushions about twelve inches tall in cracks of rocks in the streams." As per the field note (specimen Syngé S. 503), it is mentioned that *P. rupicola* grows on exposed rocks by the side of rivers.

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF *Perilimnastes*

1. Branches glabrous; calyx tube 4-angled..... *P. fruticosa*
2. Branches and nodes setose, becomes glabrous when old; calyx tube 8-ribbed *P. rupicola*

1. ***Perilimnastes fruticosa*** Ridl. in Journ. Roy. As. Soc. Str. Br. 79: 70, 1918; Ridley, Fl. Mal. Penin. 1:761, 1922.

Anerincleistus fruticosus Ridl. in Journ. Linn. Soc. 38:309, 1908; Ridl. in Journ. Roy. As. Soc. Str. Br. 57:47 1911; Ridl. in Journ. Fed. Mal. States Mus. 6:148, 1915.

Distribution: MALAYA: Pahang, Gunong Tahan, *Robinson* 5453 (Holotype BM); *ibid.*, July 1911, *Ridley* 16044 (K, BM); *ibid.*, alt. 666 m, 22 June 1922, *Md. Haniff & Nur* 8309 (K).

2. ***Perilimnastes rupicola*** sp. nov. (text-fig.)

Affinis *P. fruticosae* Ridl., sed caulibus ad nodos setosis, foliis junioribus villosis, calycis tubo 8-costato differt.

Herba adscendens, 15-35 cm alta. *Caulis* angularis, ad nodos setosus, setis 4-7 mm longis. *Folia* opposita, aequalia, elliptico-lanceolata, 4-7 cm × 0.5-1.4 cm, basi cuneata, apice acuminata, margine integra, juniore supra et subtus villosa, ad maturitatem glabra, 3-nervia, venulis transversis indistinctis, chartacea; petiolus 4-7 mm longus. *Infloréscentia* terminalis, cymulis 4-6 floris; pedicellus 1-1.7 cm longus, glaber. *Calycis tubus* campanulatus, 3-4 mm longus, blaber, limbus 4-lobatus, lobis triangularibus, 3 mm longis. *Petala* 4, elliptico-oblonga, 10-11 mm × 4-4.5 mm. *Stamina* 8, aequalia, filamentis 4.5 mm longis, antheris anguste lanceolatis, 5.5 mm longis, connectivo basi haud pro-

ducto, inappendiculato. *Ovarium* coronatum, calycis tubo septis 8 adnatum, loculi 8. *Stylus* filiformis, 8-9 mm longus, glaber, stigmatibus punctiformi.

Typus: *Synge* S. 503 (K).

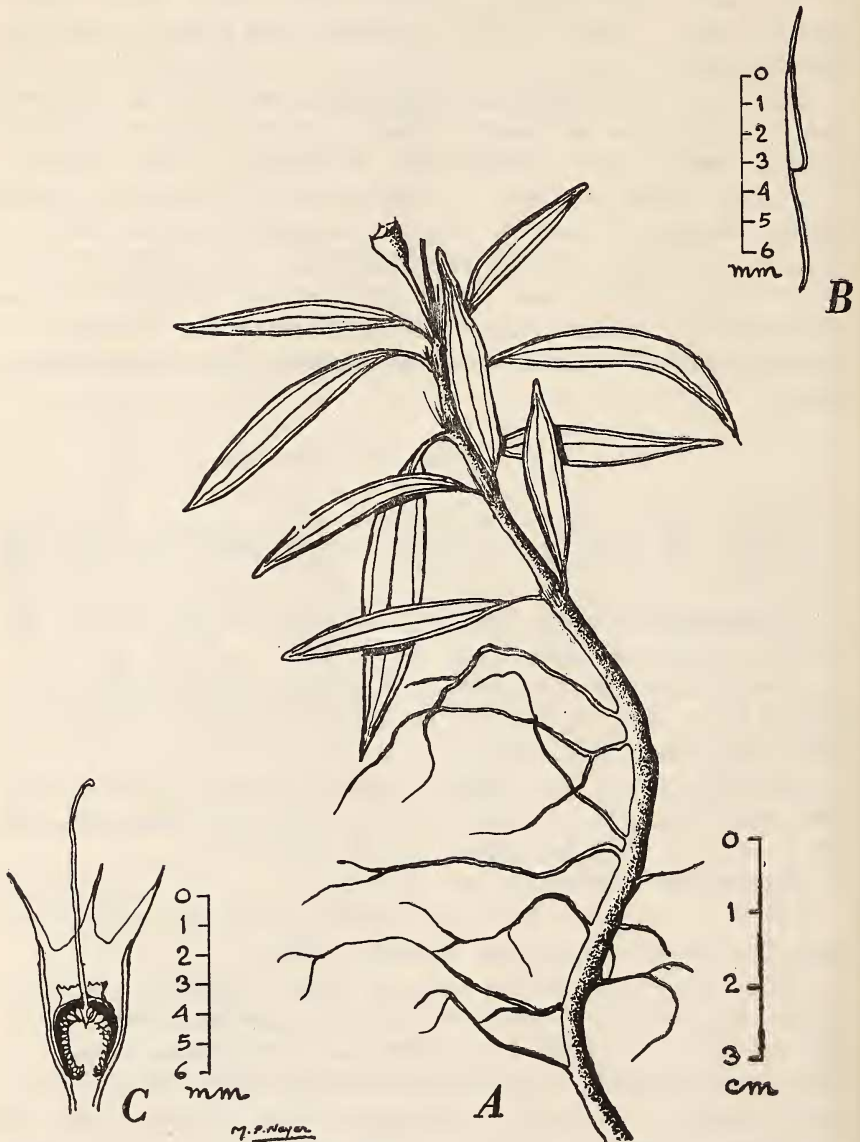


Fig. 1. *Perilimnastes rupicola* sp. nov. A. Habit; B. Stamen—side view; C. L. S. of calyx tube.

Herb, 15-35 cm tall. *Stem* angular, setose at the nodes, hairs 4-7 mm long. *Leaves* opposite, equal, elliptico-lanceolate, 4-7 cm × 0.5-1.4 cm,

base cuneate, apex acuminate, margin entire, when young upper and lower surface villose, when old becomes glabrous, 3-nerved, transverse venules indistinct chartaceous; petiole 4-7 mm long. *Inflorescence* terminal, 4-6 flowered cymes; pedicel 1-1.7 cm long, glabrous. *Calyx tube* campanulate, 3-4 mm long, glabrous, 4-lobed, lobes triangular, 3 mm long. *Petals* 4, elliptic oblong, 10-11 mm \times 4-4.5 mm. *Stamens* 8, equal, filament 4.5 mm long, anther narrowly lanceolate, 5.5 mm long, connective not produced at the base, inappendiculate. *Ovary* adnate to the calyx tube by 8 septa, extraovarial chambers 8, disc present. *Style* filiform, 8-9 mm long, glabrous, stigma punctiform.

Borneo: Sarawak, Mt. Dulit, Ulu Koyan, alt. 800 m, 16 Sept. 1932, *Syngé S.* 503 (K); *ibid.*, alt. c. 800 m, 7 Feb. 1932, *Richards* 2498 (K).

This species is immediately distinguishable by the presence of bristles at the nodes of young branches and villose tomentum in young leaves. In *P. rupicola* the calyx tube is 8-ribbed, whereas in *P. fruticosa* the calyx tube is 4-angular.

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24. ON THE CITATION OF *PALAEQUIUM ELLIPTICUM* (DALZ.) BAILLON

Under article no. 46 of the ICBN, for the indication of the name of a taxon to be accurate and complete, for purposes of precision, it is necessary that the citation of author's name and of literature is correctly recorded. The note presents the case of the INDIAN GUTTA-PERCHA TREE, popularly called as *Panchoti-palla* in T "Cooke's Flora of the presidency of Bombay" (2:154, 1958, reprinted). The tree grows to a height of 30 m and is distributed in the Western Ghats from North Kanara southwards. The correct citation and synonymy are given below:—